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ENGLISH

PROVISIONAL VERBATIM RECORD OF THE THREE THOUSAND AND TWENTY-FIFTH MEETING

Held at Headquarters, New York,
on Tuesday, 31 December 1991, at 4.15 p.m.

President:	Mr. VORONTSOV	(Russian Federation)
Members:	Austria	Mr. HAJNOCZI
	Belgium	Mr. NOTERDAEME
	China	Mr. LI Daoyu
	Côte d'Ivoire	Mr. BECHIO
	Cuba	Mr. ALARCON de QUESADA
	Ecuador	Mr. AYALA LASSO
	France	Mr. MERIMEE
	India	Mr. GHAREKHAN
	Romania	Mr. MUNTEANU
	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Sir David HANNAY
	United States	Mr. WATSON
	Yemen	Mr. BASALAMAH
	Zaire	Mr. LUKABU KHABOUJI N'ZAJI
	Zimbabwe	Mr. MUMBENGEGWI

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The meeting was called to order at 4.15 p.m.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The agenda was adopted.

THE SITUATION CONCERNING WESTERN SAHARA

REPORT BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL (S/23299)

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): The Security Council will now begin its consideration of the item on its agenda.

Members of the Council have before them document S/23299, which contains the text of the report of the Secretary-General, dated 19 December 1991, on the situation concerning Western Sahara, submitted in accordance with paragraph 6 of Security Council resolution 690 (1991). In this connection, members of the Council also have before them a draft resolution, contained in document S/23330, which has been prepared in the course of the Council's consultations.

I should also like to draw the attention of members of the Council to the following documents: S/23315, letter dated 23 December 1991 from the Permanent Representative of Ghana to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council; S/23321, letter dated 24 December 1991 from the Permanent Representative of Morocco to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council; and S/23323, letter dated 26 December 1991 from the Permanent Representative of Algeria to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council.

It is my understanding that the Council is ready to proceed to the vote on the draft resolution before it. If I hear no objection, I shall put the draft resolution (S/23330) to the vote now.

There being no objection, it is so decided.

A vote was taken by show of hands.

In favour: Austria, Belgium, China, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Ecuador, France, India, Romania, Russian Federation, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Yemen, Zaire, Zimbabwe

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): There were 15 votes in favour. The draft resolution has therefore been adopted unanimously as resolution 725 (1991).

The Security Council has thus concluded the present stage of its consideration of the item on its agenda.

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Russian): Today we are meeting for the last time in 1991. We have gathered at this table for the last time with the Council in its present composition. I wish to take this opportunity to express our gratitude to the delegations of Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Romania, Yemen and Zaire, whose terms on the Council expire at midnight tonight, for their cooperation, effective work and sincere desire to help us find solutions to all the difficult problems that have faced the Security Council over the past two years. I hope I am expressing the general view in saying that our work together has promoted the continuing increased effectiveness of the Security Council in its work to maintain international peace and security.

In a few hours the new year, 1992, will begin. I should like to express my very best wishes to all members of the Security Council for the new year, to all members of the delegations represented here in the Council and also to all the very skilled and efficient ladies and gentlemen of the Secretariat,

(The President)

who have done a great deal, and done it very well, to assist us in our work over the past year. I wish everyone a good and happy new year, happiness in your families, good health and all the very best.

The meeting rose at 4.20 p.m.